TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE SEWER COMMISSION

FRANICS X. WHITE, CHAIRMAN LAWRENCE H. DUFAULT, CLERK MICHAEL J. MERCADANTE, MEMBER

MARK R. ROBIDOUX. SUPERINTENDENT



3 OLD MEADOW ROAD SPENCER, MA 01562 TEL. 508-885-7541 TTY 508-885-7525 PLANT 508-885-7542

Minutes of Meeting & Public Hearing held March 13, 2012

Meeting of the Board of Sewer Commissioners held at the Water Department, 3 Old Meadow Road, Spencer, MA.

Members present: Francis "Frank" X. White

Lawrence "Larry" H. Dufault Michael "Mike" J. Mercadante

Sewer staff present: Mark Robidoux, Supt.

Debra Graves, Sr. Clerk

Meeting was called to order at 5:05pm.

- 1. Read and accepted minutes for February 15 and 29, 2012.
- 2. Signed monthly commitment for septage fees.
- 3. Superintendent Mark Robidoux Reports:
 - Monthly Operations Report (Reports are on file at the Utilities & Facilities Office)
- 4. Lake Association member wants to take a tour of the WWTP. Sewer Commissioners don't allow tours at the WWTP because of liability concerns.
- 5. <u>Meadow Rd. Pump Station</u>: Building Inspector said the Sewer Department would need a full time clerk of the works for building construction. Sewer Commissioners would like to meet with the Town Administrator to discuss this.
- 6. The ATM warrant will be closing soon. An article for lump sum borrowing for sewer system upgrades & repairs is suggested by the Town's financial advisor. The Sewer Commissioners would like Mark to ask the three firms interviewed to provide budget pricing with and without mixers for the aeration system upgrade.
- 7. <u>Budget</u>: The commissioners would like to borrow \$1,700,000 over a period of 15 years minimum for the Sewer Capital Projects. Over the past few years there was money leftover so that sewer rates did not increase. Also, the commissioners would like to change the indirect costs from \$145,000 to \$100,000. This is on hold until after meeting with Selectmen.
- 8. Synagro Northeast contract for disposal of sludge ends this year. The Sewer Dept. should go out to bid.

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- 9. American Sewerage & Septic Co., LLC wants to use the treatment plant to dump septage. The Sewer Commission agree to allow them to dump septage at treatment plant and want sewer employees to monitor the site glass.
- 10. <u>NPDES Permit</u>: Review operation and maintenance of the sewer system special conditions. Also, the existing mass loadings will most likely change.
- 11. Review Waste Management Non-Hazardous Wastes agreement.
- 12. <u>15 Valley St</u>: Has two separate lines building sewers. One for the garage and one for the house. A new account was added for the house.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:55pm. Motion by Mike, seconded by Larry, and in favor, Frank.

Motion by Larry to go into Public Hearing at 7:00pm to discuss Sewer Rates, seconded by Frank, and in favor, Mike.

(A Public Hearing handout is on file at the Utilities & Facilities Office)

Discuss Sewer Rates Increase:

- A. Budget goes up every year and have previously balanced budget from retain earnings
- B. FY13 budget is \$1,185,722
- C. 5 Year NPDES Permit Mandated by EPA & MassDEP
- D. Meadow Road Pump Station Replacement
- E. GIS Sewer Mapping
- F. Collection System Repairs
- G. WWTP Aeration System & Emergency Generator Upgrades

Sewer Commissioners would have to increases the rates by 35% for FY13 budget and borrow \$1,700,000 at 3%. Will review the rates and vote at the March 19, 2012 meeting.

Public Meeting Adjourned at 8:17pm. Motion by Larry, seconded by Mike, and in favor, Frank.